

## **Appendices**

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**Appendix A:** Map of proposed acquisitions and restoration

**Appendix B:** Map of Stone Lakes NWR

**Appendix C:** Letters of Notification:

Delta Protection Commission

Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor

Mike McGowan, Yolo County Supervisor

**Appendix D:** Letters of Support

Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture

County of Sacramento/Dept. of Regional Parks, Recreation & Open Space

National Audubon Society/California

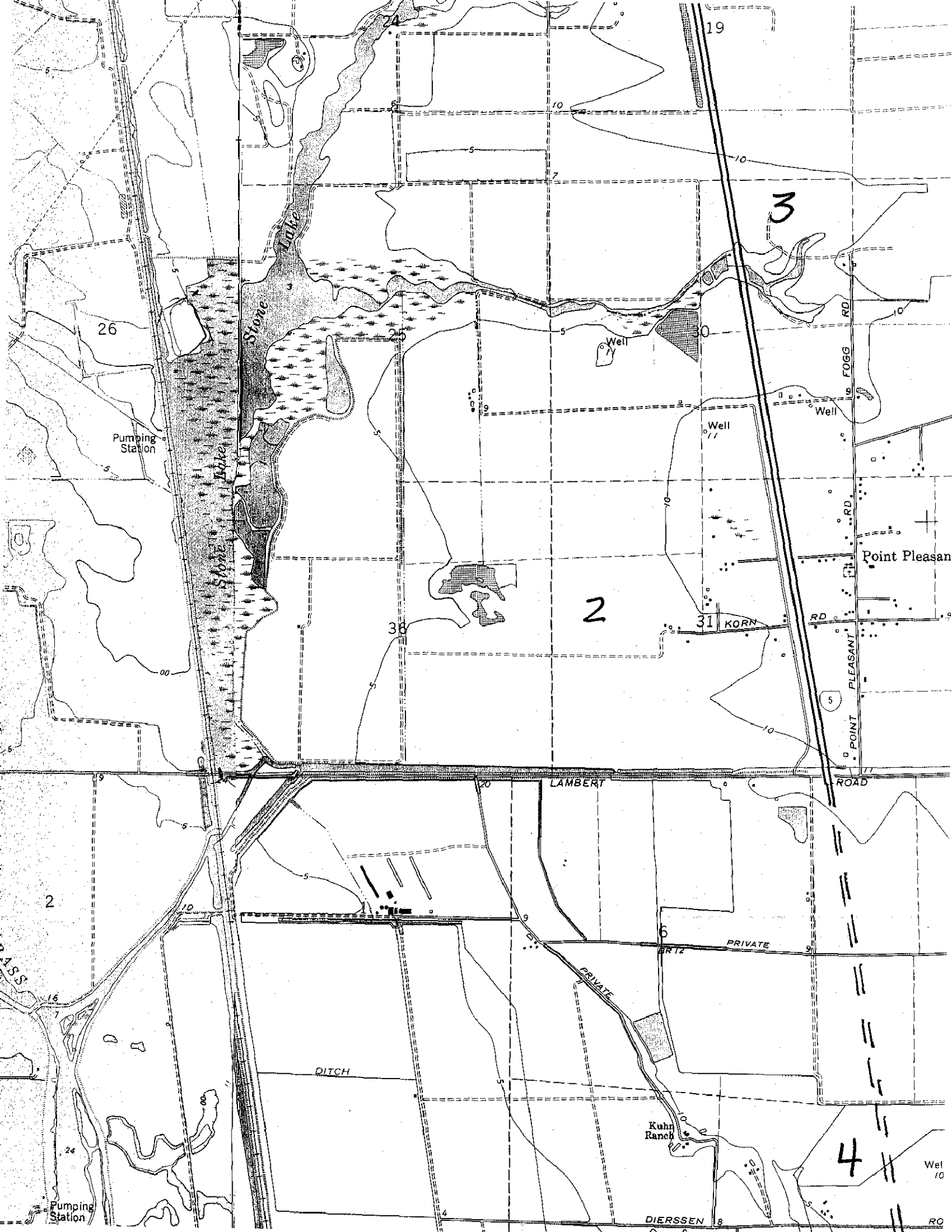
The Trust for Public Land

Sacramento Open Space

Sacramento Open Space Conservancy

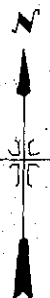
Sierra Club

Stone Lakes Refuge Alliance



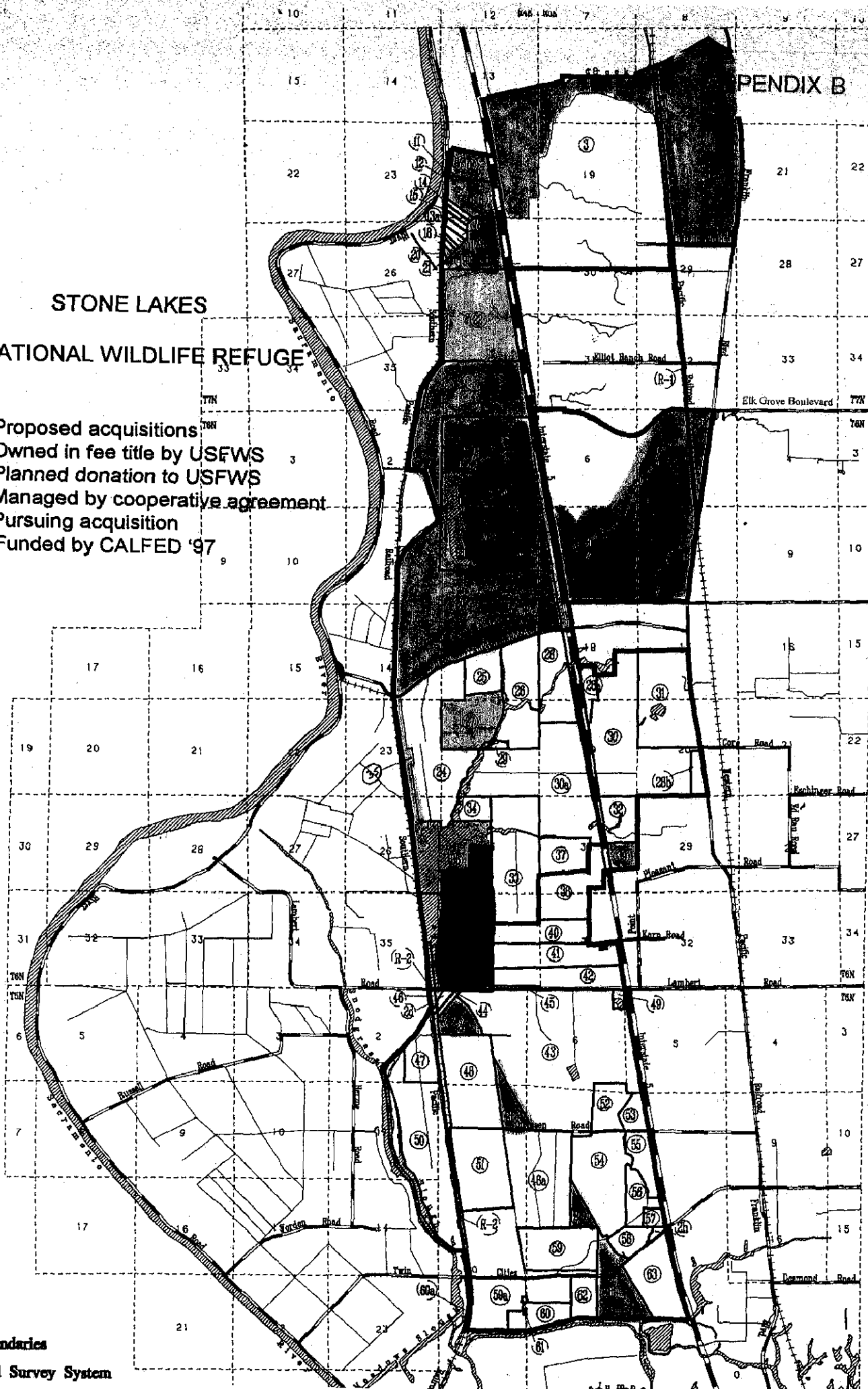
# STONE LAKES NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

- Proposed acquisitions
- Owned in fee title by USFWS
- Planned donation to USFWS
- ▨ Managed by cooperative agreement
- Pursuing acquisition
- Funded by CALFED '97



Scale 1:62,500

- ▨ Project Boundaries
- ▨ Public Land Survey System



**Appendix C: Letters of Notification:**

**Delta Protection Commission**

**Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor**

**Mike McGowan, Yolo County Supervisor**



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge  
2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 230  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
916/979-2085

April 8, 1999

Delta Protection Commission  
14215 River Road  
PO Box 530  
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

#### To Whom It May Concern:

In an effort to advance our land protection program at Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and the proposed North Delta National Wildlife Refuge, we are applying for two grants from CALFED. To comply with CALFED notification requirements, we are providing you with written notification of our plans.

For Stone Lakes NWR, the grant application to CALFED asks for funds to 1) complete full funding toward acquisition of three properties within the approved refuge project area (balance of funds provided by Packard Foundation); 2) provide full funding to Trust for Public Land to acquire a fourth property within the refuge project area on our behalf; and 3) acquire Sacramento River water rights owned by Delta Sugar Corporation near Clarksburg, which is in Yolo County.

For the proposed North Delta NWR, we are asking for approximately \$2.25 million to 1) acquire property on Liberty Island from willing sellers; 2) fund the restoration planning process; and 3) begin restoration on Liberty Island.

It is our policy to work only with willing sellers and to offer them a variety of options to consider, ranging from partnering and technical assistance to easements and fee title purchase. Offers are based on fair market value of the property. Three of the parties wish to sell in fee title to the Service; the fourth prefers an agricultural easement. Options have been signed on two of the properties and a third is being negotiated now.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Harvey  
Project Leader



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge  
2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 230  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
916/979-2085

April 8, 1999

Don Nottoli, Supervisor  
Sacramento County  
700 H. Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Don:

In an effort to advance our land protection program at Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), we are applying for a grant from CALFED to partially match an acquisition grant we have received from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation. You and I talk often about Stone Lakes NWR acquisitions and other projects. To comply with CALFED notification requirements, I am writing you to be sure that you know about our plans.

The grant application to CALFED asks for funds to 1) complete full funding toward acquisition of three properties within the approved refuge project area (balance of funds provided by Packard Foundation) and 2) provide full funding to Trust for Public Land to acquire a fourth property within the refuge project area on our behalf. Some of these funds will also be used to acquire Sacramento River water rights owned by Delta Sugar Corporation near Clarksburg, which is in Yolo County.

As you know we work only with willing sellers and offer them a variety of options to consider, ranging from partnering and technical assistance to easements and fee title purchase. Three of the parties wish to sell in fee title to the Service; the fourth prefers an agricultural easement. Options have been signed on two of the properties and a third is being negotiated now.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Harvey  
Project Leader



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 230

Sacramento, CA 95825

916/979-2085

April 15, 1999

Mike McGowan  
Yolo County Supervisor  
625 Court Street, Room 204  
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear Mr. McGowan:

Recently, we learned that your district includes a project for which we are requesting CALFED funds. We'd like to notify you that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is applying for a CALFED grant to assist with land protection and other acquisition efforts within Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge.

Specifically, the Service is working with Delta Sugar Corporation in Clarksburg (Yolo County) and other diverters to acquire water rights from the Delta. We intend to use this water for the benefit of fish and wildlife and to support wildlife-friendly farming practices within the Refuge boundary.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Harvey  
Project Leader

**Appendix D: Letters of Support**

**Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture**

**County of Sacramento/Dept. of Regional Parks, Recreation & Open Space**

**National Audubon Society/California**

**The Trust for Public Land**

**Sacramento Open Space**

**Sacramento Open Space Conservancy**

**Sierra Club**

**Stone Lakes Refuge Alliance**





# CENTRAL VALLEY HABITAT JOINT VENTURE

North American Waterfowl Management Plan

April 12, 1999

American  
Farmland Trust  
California Waterfowl  
Association  
Ducks Unlimited  
National Audubon  
Society  
The Nature Conservancy  
The Trust for Public Land

Mr. Lester Snow  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program Office  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

This letter acknowledges the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture's strong support for the Stone Lake National Wildlife Refuge's request for CALFED funds to help acquire properties and water rights within Stone Lakes NWR. These properties are strategically located within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Stone Lakes/Cosumnes Basin. They are located adjacent to or near refuge-owned or managed lands, as well as other lands that have received CALFED funding. Protection of these lands is essential, as this area is facing heavy development pressures and much open space is being converted to vineyards or urban development. The acquisition of the water rights will undoubtedly assist with development and maintenance of aquatic habitats or the growth of seasonal crops to benefit wildlife.

Stone Lakes NWR offers prime habitat for a number of special status species, including the Sacramento splittail, giant garter snake, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, sandhill crane, Aleutian Canada goose, and many migratory geese, waterfowl, and songbirds. Habitat protection efforts within the refuge link to and complement broader efforts of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture partners to protect critical habitat for these and other species within the Pacific Flyway.

In addition to these obvious resource benefits, one of the properties includes a large home that can be readily converted into an environmental education center; at present, there are not public facilities on the refuge. There is strong interest in the refuge's environmental education programs from a growing number of schools, particularly those in the Elk Grove School District.

Acquisition of these properties and the water right will build on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's proven track record and will assist in meeting many of CALFED's objectives for the North Delta Corridor. We urge you to give this proposal your highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel Taylor  
Chairman



APR 13 1999

**County of Sacramento**  
**Department of Regional Parks, Recreation**  
**and Open Space**



RECREATION & PARK  
AND  
FISH & GAME COMMISSION

April 8, 1999

RONALD D. SUTER  
Director

DEPUTY DIRECTORS  
Roy Imai - Planning &  
Regional Parks  
Gary Kukkola - American  
River Parkway  
Thom Oliver - Golf

Robert J. Bastian  
Michele McCormick  
Theodore M. Robinson  
Art White  
Louis Zimmerle

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

This expresses support from Regional Parks Department and Sacramento County as a whole, to the grant application being submitted by Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge staff for the acquisition of 464 acres from four private landowners.

These lands are within the approved refuge boundary; acquisition of these lands would promote protection of important open spaces and therefore the protection and restoration of seasonal wetlands, riparian corridors, and grasslands. Another very important role of the Refuge that would be strengthened by these acquisitions is flood protection to the Sacramento region.

It is important to point out that refuge lands that have already been acquired and restored have shown dramatic increases in resident and migratory wildlife populations. The proposed acquisitions will extend these benefits to adjacent or nearby lands as well as benefit species at risk, including the Swainson's hawk, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, giant garter snake, Sacramento splittail, vernal pool invertebrates, and many others. But time is of the essence in this land acquisition effort for expanding the Stone Lakes National Refuge -- precious adjacent land have been approved for major urban development, vineyard conversions are rapidly occurring. The time to acquire lands available for expanding the Refuge is now.

Lastly, as a long-time partner with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the management of County-owned portion of the Refuge, it is important to state, without doubt, that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been an excellent steward of the Refuge; that through its efforts the Refuge offers assurances of continued flourishing coexistence between nature and humanity.

We urge your highest consideration of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service' grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Ron Suter  
Director

cc: Tom Harvey, USFWS

Jc (usfwsgt.lt1)

3711 Branch Center Road, Sacramento, CA 95827  
(916) 875-6961 FAX (916) 875-6050

# National Audubon Society California



555 Audubon Place  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 481-5332  
(916) 481-6228 fax

## National Audubon Society Chapters of California

Altacal  
Buena Vista  
Central Sierra  
Conejo Valley  
Eagle Lake  
Eastern Sierra  
El Dorado  
Fresno  
Golden Gate  
Kern  
Kerncrest  
Laguna Hills  
Lake Almanor  
La Purisima  
Los Angeles  
Madrone  
Marble Mountain  
Marin  
Mendocino Coast  
Monterey Peninsula  
Morro Coast  
Mount Diablo  
Mount Shasta Area  
Napa-Solano  
North Cuesta  
Ohlone  
Palomar  
Palos Verdes/South Bay  
Pasadena  
Peregrine  
Plumas  
Pomona Valley  
Redbud  
Redwood Region  
Sacramento  
San Bernardino Valley  
San Diego  
San Fernando Valley  
San Joaquin  
Santa Barbara  
Santa Clara Valley  
Santa Monica Bay  
Sea and Sage  
Sequoia  
Sierra Foothills  
South Coast  
Stanislaus  
Tulare County  
Ventura  
Whittier  
Wintu  
Yolo  
Yosemite Area

April 16, 1999

### To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Audubon's 67,000 members and 53 affiliated local chapters in California, I urge you support funding for acquisition of 464 acres from willing sellers by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) at the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Your matching funds will enable USFWS to offer these willing sellers the appraised fair market value of their property. Your support for these acquisition projects would ensure protection of vital habitat for birds and other wildlife, and provide increased outdoor education opportunities for many urban Californians.

Because of its proximity to Sacramento, one of the largest metropolitan regions in California, Stone Lakes NWR can serve as a convenient outdoor education forum that will complement Audubon-California's efforts to provide nature education to the citizens of California. One of the properties which USFWS can acquire with your funding assistance would provide an ideal location for a community environmental education center; existing facilities at this site could readily be converted to an education center. Audubon-California has participated in every annual public education/community outreach event at Stone Lakes NWR; public support for, and interest in, the Refuge continues to grow. We look forward to further partnering with the Refuge, local elected officials, schools, resource agencies, and landowners once a core area is acquired and then opened to the public on a year-round basis.

In addition, acquisition of the available properties represents a prime opportunity for restoration of critical wildlife habitat in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. Audubon-California is particularly excited about the potential for wetland, riparian forest, and grassland restoration projects on these properties. Restoration of these habitats would in turn benefit many special status bird species, including the Swainson's hawk, Aleutian Canada Goose, greater sandhill crane, and a host of neotropical migratory songbirds. Refuge lands that have already been acquired and restored have shown dramatic increases in resident and migratory bird populations; the proposed acquisitions will extend these benefits to adjacent or nearby lands.

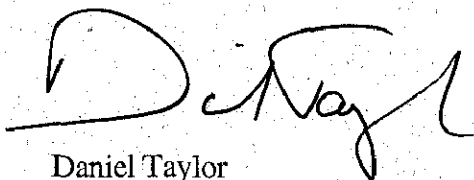
Moreover, USFWS' Concept Plan for Waterfowl Wintering Habitat Preservation: Central Valley, California identifies these habitats as important areas threatened by urban encroachment and requiring preservation. Habitat protection efforts within Stone Lakes NWR are an integral part of the broad based public-private partnership working to protect critical Central Valley habitat within the Pacific Flyway. Every parcel of land that is acquired and restored to ecosystem functions within the Refuge helps to strengthen wildlife habitat corridor linkages within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.



California's economic recovery from the recent recession has been a blessing for our citizens, but it does present a challenge to habitat preservation and restoration efforts. Pressures to develop natural areas are increasing, and land values are rising accordingly. Several major urban developments and vineyard conversions already have been approved adjacent to the refuge. Audubon-California is concerned that we will lose valuable purchase opportunities within the Stone Lakes NWR project area if we do not act quickly. Consequently, we encourage you to support the Refuge's request for acquisition funding. Please do not hesitate to contact Audubon-California if we can be of any assistance to you as you consider this request.

Thank you for giving our concerns your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Taylor", written in a cursive style.

Daniel Taylor  
Executive Director

cc: Tom Harvey, USFWS

CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Page 2

April 14, 1999

urban developments and vineyard conversions have already been approved on lands adjacent to the Refuge. If funding is not available soon, the properties could be lost to other agricultural interests, particularly the aforementioned vineyard conversions.

We hope that you join us in support of this important conservation effort, and that you give this proposal your utmost consideration. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nelson Mathews', written over a horizontal line.

Nelson Mathews

Western Rivers Program Director

SACRAMENTO OPEN SPACE



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April 12, 1999

To Whom It May Concern

RE: Support of Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge request for property acquisition funding

Sacramento Open Space (SOS) is a local nonprofit volunteer organization which promotes the preservation and wise use of open space resources in Sacramento County and the surrounding region. We enthusiastically support the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge's request for funds to purchase properties from willing sellers within the Refuge boundary.

Acquisition of the properties will protect important open space resources and allow for restoration of seasonal wetlands, riparian corridors, and grasslands. It will also help to strengthen the landscape corridor linkages in the region and to provide flood protection to the Sacramento region. These lands will be added to Refuge lands that have already been acquired and restored, and have shown large increases in resident and migratory wildlife populations. The planned acquisitions and improvements will benefit species at risk, including the Giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk and Sacramento splittail.

The Stone Lakes Wildlife Refuge is a very popular and successful program, with strong support from volunteer groups, local agencies, public officials, schools and the general public. The Stone Lakes Wildlife Refuge works closely with SOS in our outreach and advocacy activities by providing tours and demonstrations of effective strategies for land acquisition, and habitat restoration and management. Acquisition of additional properties within the Refuge will help it to better respond to growing demands for public use from Sacramento County's rapidly growing urban areas.

Sincerely,



Chris Tooker  
President

# **SACRAMENTO VALLEY OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY**

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

April 13, 1999

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Stone Lakes NWR  
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2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 375  
Sacramento, CA 95825-0509

RE: Support for Stone Lakes Refuge Land Acquisition

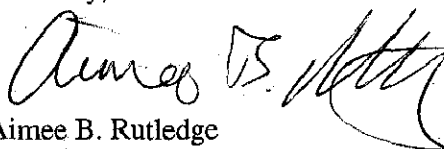
To whom it may concern:

The Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy supports the request for grant funds for the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. The Stone Lakes Refuge is a significant resource in our region for habitat and flood protection. It occupies a strategic position within the Delta and serves as a connection to the Cosumnes River Preserve. It has proven successful in housing many sensitive species, and has the potential to accomodate many more migratory birds and other species, including the northern pintail, Swainson's Hawk, vernal pool invertebrates, giant garter snake, Sacramento splittail, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, and many others, with additional land conservation.

The Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy (SVOSC) is a private, nonprofit, tax exempt organization which exists to facilitate the permanent protection and preservation of natural, agricultural, and recreational open space lands in the Sacramento Valley.

The Conservancy was founded in 1990 on two basic principles—that open lands are necessary for quality of life and that we must care for the land today so future generations may enjoy its physical and spiritual benefits tomorrow.

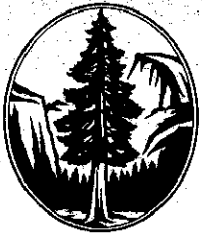
Sincerely,

  
Aimee B. Rutledge

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SIERRA  
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APR 14 1999

Mother Lode Chapter  
1414 K Street, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Tel: (916) 557-1100, x 108  
Fax: (916) 557-9669  
[www.motherlode.org](http://www.motherlode.org)

April 12, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

I am sending this letter on behalf of the Mother Lode Chapter of the Sierra Club to indicate our support for efforts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to raise the funds needed to purchase additional lands at Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. Located as it is near a large urban center and within an emerging wildlife corridor, it is a valuable resource for both resident and migratory wildlife and Sacramento area citizens—especially schoolchildren.

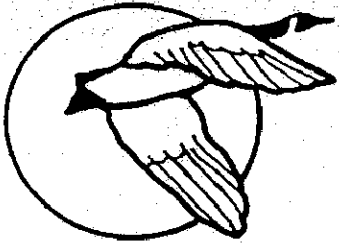
This project has been a priority for this chapter for over ten years, and we are pleased to see that opportunities for potential funding are becoming available. We are anxious to see the Refuge acquire key parcels.

Please let me know if I can do anything to help with the project. I can be reached during the day at (916) 657-3465 or at [vlee2@ibm.net](mailto:vlee2@ibm.net).

Sincerely,

Vicki Lee  
Chapter Chair





# STONE LAKES REFUGE ALLIANCE

1600 DAY DRIVE • CARMICHAEL, CA 95608 • (916) 486-9624

April 8, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Land Acquisition at Stone Lakes NWR

The Stone Lakes Refuge Alliance has worked for many years to generate public support for the creation and expansion of this refuge. It is one of the newest of the National Wildlife Refuge System and one of the few located close to a major metropolitan area. As the Sacramento area's population grows and land prices rise, it is important to build up the refuge's landholdings as quickly as possible.

The Alliance fully supports the allocation of more than \$3 million, needed for four land acquisitions from willing sellers at fair market value, as well as for the purchase of water rights necessary for the refuge. These additions to the existing refuge lands will enhance its ability to provide valuable habitat for resident and migratory birds, as well as for a small but important number of endangered plant and animal species.

The establishment and growth of this refuge enjoys widespread public support, due not only to its clear wildlife benefits but also to its open space values and flood control benefits. Beyond this, the expanding refuge will be able to provide an increased level of educational opportunities to local and regional residents, through tours by school groups and the general public.

I have been personally involved in land use issues in the Stone Lakes basin since 1969 and am very pleased with the progress that has been achieved in the last few years. Your support of the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge will be very much appreciated.

Bruce Kennedy  
President